

## **How Much Federal Assistance Can Be Requested?**

Funding requests should range between \$25,000 (\$50,000 total project budget with a 50% match) and \$250,000 (\$500,000 total project budget with a 50% match). Exceptions to the \$25,000 minimum rule will be considered for political subdivisions serving populations under 10,000. Local matches can exceed 50%, but the federal share cannot exceed 50% of the total project amount. In addition, beginning in 2003, a 7% surcharge will be assessed to all grant recipients above the 50% local match to cover overhead costs incurred by the state for administration of the program.

## **How Do I Apply For A L&WCF Program Grant?**

The Nevada Division of State Parks will send an application package to anyone who requests it. To get on the mailing list to receive an application package as soon as they are ready for distribution, please complete the L&WCF Grant Application Package Request Form (located on back of L&WCF grant program announcement) and return it to the address indicated on the form.

**Application packages for the federal fiscal year 2003 grant cycle will be distributed as soon as the newly revised grant manual can be published (probably June 1st). Please mail your request to get on the mailing list as quickly as possible. This will assist us in determining the number of application packages needed.**

You may obtain a draft version of the application package on State Parks' website at [www.parks.nv.gov/LWCF/grantmanual.htm](http://www.parks.nv.gov/LWCF/grantmanual.htm)

The deadline for FFY 2003 L&WCF grant applications is tentatively set for June 30, 2003. Because of the short time period between the availability of the finalized grant application package and the deadline for submittal of applications, prospective grantees are encouraged to begin putting together applications based on the 2003 draft version of the grant manual, forms and criteria available on the above mentioned website on or about May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Selected projects will be recommended for funding this Summer. Final approval is expected in the Fall of 2003. Prospective applicants may contact Steve Weaver, L&WCF Grants Coordinator, with any questions regarding the program. Steve's phone number and addresses are located below.

### **For more information, please contact:**

**Nevada Division of State Parks  
Attn: Steve Weaver,  
L&WCF Grants Coordinator  
1300 South Curry Street  
Carson City, NV 89703-5202  
OR**

**Phone: 775-687-1693**

**Fax: 775-687-4117**

**E-Mail: <[jsweaver@parks.nv.gov](mailto:jsweaver@parks.nv.gov)>**

**WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOME GOOD  
PARK & RECREATION PROJECTS TO  
FUND IN 2003!**

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## **Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund Grants Program**

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## **GRANT FUNDS AVAILABLE IN FFY2003**



Program Administered  
In Nevada By:

**Nevada Division of State Parks  
1300 South Curry Street  
Carson City, NV 89703-5202**

## **What Is The Land & Water Conservation Fund Program?**

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (L&WCF) Act of 1965 (Public Law 88-578, 78 Stat 897) was enacted "...to assist in preserving, developing and assuring accessibility to all citizens of the United States of America...such quality and quantity of outdoor recreation resources as may be available and are necessary and desirable for individual active participation...."

The L&WCF program provides 50:50 matching grants to States, and through States to local governments and Native American tribes, for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

The federal funds for the program are derived primarily from Outer Continental Shelf oil revenues, along with the sale of surplus federal properties, a special marine fuel tax, and the sale of entrance permits and user fees at federal outdoor recreation areas.

The L&WCF Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assistance to the States for Outdoor Recreation purposes. This authority has largely been delegated to the Director of the National Park Service (NPS). In turn, the Regional Directors of the NPS are authorized to administer the program within their respective jurisdictions.

To qualify for financial assistance under the L&WCF program, each state must 1) designate an official to act as the State Liaison Officer (SLO) in dealing with the National Park Service; 2) designate an official to serve as the state's fiscal officer to receive and disburse federal funds; 3) prepare and maintain a Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) acceptable to the National Park Service.

Since 1965, Nevada has met these qualifications. Under Nevada Revised Statute 407.205, the administrator of the Division of State Parks is designated the SLO and assigned the responsibility for accepting and disbursing funds, and preparing and maintaining the SCORP. Nevada expects to maintain

eligibility for L&WCF grants monies at least through FY 2003.

## **What Amount of Funds Is Available?**

In early 2003, Congress approved the Interior Appropriations Bill for FFY 2003. It included approximately \$94.3 million for the "Stateside" L&WCFund.

Based on the preliminary estimate, this translates to approximately \$1.126 million for Nevada in FFY 2003, half of which will be awarded to the state's political subdivisions and Native American tribal governments.

## **Who is Eligible to Apply?**

All political subdivisions within the state including counties, cities, towns, general improvement districts, and Native American tribal governments, which have legal authority to operate parks or provide recreation services, are potentially eligible for the 50:50 matching grants offered through the program. The local matches can consist of cash, in-kind labor, volunteer labor, and donated property, materials, or equipment.

## **What Types of Projects Are Eligible?**

Financial assistance is available through the L&WCF to provide most facilities necessary for the use and enjoyment of outdoor recreation areas.

Funding of development proposals may cover construction, renovation, site planning, demolition, site preparation, and architectural/ engineering services.

Examples of development projects include: sports & play fields, picnic facilities, trails, swimming facilities, boating facilities, fishing/hunting facilities, winter sports facilities, campgrounds, outdoor exhibits, spectator facilities, community gardens, major renovation or redevelopment of recreation facilities, provision of access to recreation facilities for persons with disabilities, and outdoor zoos. The funds can also

be utilized for recreation support facilities such as access roads, parking, walkways, restrooms, utilities, visitor or interpretive centers and pavilions. Although swimming pools and golf courses are technically eligible, these particular project categories are not advised since they have attracted opposition by certain members of Congress.

Also eligible is the acquisition of lands and waters for public outdoor recreation, including new areas or additions to existing parks, forests, wildlife areas, beaches and other similar areas dedicated to outdoor recreation.

## **How Are Projects Selected?**

Political subdivision projects are scored by State Parks staff in accordance with established criteria, and prioritized according to the resultant scores. This information is then provided to the Nevada Advisory Board on Natural Resources, which then makes recommendations on projects to be funded to the State Parks Administrator. The Parks Administrator considers these recommendations before transmitting a list of projects recommended for funding to the National Park Service's (NPS) regional office in Oakland, California. The NPS verifies eligibility and then approves or disapproves the projects recommended.

Although the approximately \$563,000 available to political subdivisions and tribal governments will somewhat limit the number of projects that can be funded, the Division of State Parks invites interested political subdivisions and tribes to submit one or more applications. Applications with the best chance of success for funding will involve projects for which the sponsor can readily demonstrate an overwhelming need, high potential usage, and strong local public support!